

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

GRAFTON, SS


SUPERIOR COURT

CLERK'S CERTIFICATE

I, David P. Carlson, Clerk of the Superior Court of the State of New Hampshire for the County of Grafton, the same being a court of record having a seal, do hereby certify that I am the lawful custodian of the seal, files, records and proceedings of said Court, and also the files and records of the Supreme Court of Judicature, the Circuit Court and the Supreme Court, heretofore existing in said State and that I am by law the proper person to make out and certify copies thereof. I further certify that:

the attached is a true copy of the case summary and pleadings in Grafton County Superior Court Docket No. 215-2011-CV-338, Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, et al vs. Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc., et al

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Superior Court this 11th day of October, 2011.



\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk

David P. Carlson

Grafton Superior Court  
CASE SUMMARY

CASE NO. 215-2011-CV-00338

Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United  
States of America, et al v Conference of Grand Masters of  
Masons in North America, Inc., et al§  
§  
§  
§Location: Grafton Superior Court  
Filed on: 08/05/2011

## CASE INFORMATION

Case Type: Tort-Libel/Slander/Defamation

Case Status: 10/05/2011 Closed

## PARTY INFORMATION

Plaintiff	Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire c/o S.K. Dennis A. Sheridan PO Box 621 Littleton, NH 03561-0621	<i>Attorneys</i> Ramsdell, Michael D., ESQ <i>Retained</i> 603-224-2381(W)
	Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America c/o S.K. Lawrence E. Tucker 5909 West Loop South, Suite 495 Bellaire, TX 77401-2402	Ramsdell, Michael D., ESQ <i>Retained</i> 603-224-2381(W)
Defendant	Almy, Glenn E 102 South Broad St. PO Box 1019 Guthrie, OK 73044	Hage, Jamie N., ESQ <i>Retained</i> 603-668-2222(W)
	Andress, Ronald G 2509 Lakewood Circle Tuscaloosa, AL 35405	<i>Pro Se</i> 205-799-2796(H)
	Bousquet, Ed 62649 Erickson Road Bend, OR 97701-9704	
	Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc. c/o Secretary/Treasurer Glenn Means 2019 Northeast Avanti Court Blue Springs, MO 64029-9368	
	Lascano, G Santy 123 Alder Street Everett, WA 98203	
	Miller, William R 30725 21st Street Avenue, Southwest Federal Way, WA 98023	
	Owen, David P 1941 Summitt Lake Shore Road Northwest Olympia, WA 98502	
Swaney, Richard L PO Box 5 Vienna, IL 62995		
Co-Counsel - Defendant/Respondent	Davidson, Kathleen A., ESQ Hage Hodes, Professional Association 1855 Elm Street Manchester, NH 03104	

DATE

EVENTS &amp; ORDERS OF THE COURT

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08/05/2011

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GRAFTON SUPERIOR COURT  
**CASE SUMMARY**  
CASE NO. 215-2011-CV-00338

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TARGET DATE	TIME STANDARDS
10/13/2011	Obj M/Add Party (#6)

## The State of New Hampshire

SUPERIOR COURT

GRAFTON COUNTY

215-2011-CV-338

COSC-AUS 5:11AM 8-15 COURT

~~XX~~ JURY

## WRIT OF SUMMONS

Grand Encampment of Knights Templar  
of the United States of America  
c/o S.K. Lawrence E. Tucker  
5909 West Loop South, Suite 495  
Bellaire, Texas 77401-2402

and

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar  
of New Hampshire  
c/o S.K. Dennis A. Sheridan  
P.O. Box 621  
Littleton, NH 03561-0621

Conference of Grand Masters of  
Masons in North America, Inc.  
c/o Secretary/Treasurer Glenn Means  
2019 Northeast Avanti Court  
Blue Springs, MO 64029-9368

V.  
G. Santy Lascano  
123 Alder Street  
Everett, WA 98203

David P. Owen  
1941 Summitt Lake Shore  
Road Northwest  
Olympia, WA 98502

Ed Bousquet  
62649 Erickson Road  
Bend, OR 97701-9704

Glenn E. Almy  
102 South Broad Street  
P.O. Box 1019  
Guthrie, OK 73044

Richard L. Swaney  
P.O. Box 5  
Vienna, IL 62995

William R. Miller, 30725 21st Street Avenue, Southwest, Federal Way, Washington 98023

The Sheriff or Deputy of any County is ordered to summon each defendant to file a written appearance with the  
Superior Court at the address listed below by the return day of this writ which is the first Tuesday of October

2011

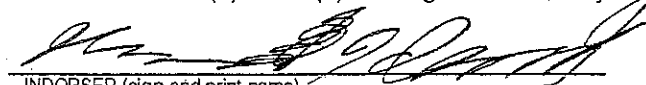
MONTH

YEAR

The PLAINTIFF(S) state(s):

See attached Declaration.

and the Plaintiff(s) claim(s) damages within the jurisdictional limits of this Court.



August 3, 2011

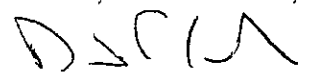
DATE OF WRIT

INDORSER (sign and print name)  
Michael D. Ramsdell, Esq., counsel for  
Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and Grand Commandery of  
Knights Templar of New Hampshire


## NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT

The Plaintiff listed above has begun legal action against you. You do not have to physically appear in Court on the return day listed above since there will be no hearing on that day. However, if you intend to contest this matter, you or your attorney must file a written appearance form with the Clerk's Office by that date. (Appearance forms may be obtained from the Clerk's Office.) You will then receive notice from the Court of all proceedings concerning this case. If you fail to file an appearance by the return day, judgment will be entered against you for a sum of money which you will then be obligated to pay.

Witness, Tina L. Nadeau, Chief Justice, Superior Court



David P. Carlson, Clerk  
NH Superior Court Grafton County  
3785 Dartmouth College Hwy.  
North Haverhill NH 03774  
(603) 787-6961



Michael D. Ramsdell, Esq. (NH Bar No. 2096)

PRINTED/TYPED NAME

Orr & Reno, P.A.  
One Eagle Square, P.O. Box 3550  
ADDRESS

Concord, NH 03302-3550

(603) 224-2381  
PHONE

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

GRAFTON, SS.

SUPERIOR COURT

Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America  
c/o S. K. Lawrence E. Tucker  
5909 West Loop South, Suite 495  
Bellaire, Texas 77401-2402; and

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire  
c/o S.K. Dennis A. Sheridan  
P.O. Box 621  
Littleton, NH 03561-0621

v.

Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc.  
c/o Secretary/Treasurer Glenn Means  
2019 Northeast Avanti Court  
Blue Springs, MO 64029-9368;

G. Santy Lascano  
123 Alder Street  
Everett, WA 98203;

David P. Owen  
1941 Summit Lake Shore Road Northwest  
Olympia, WA 98502;

Ed Bousquet  
62649 Erickson Road  
Bend, OR 97701-9704;

Glenn E. Almy  
102 South Broad Street  
P.O. Box 1019  
Guthrie, OK 73044;

Ronald G. Andress  
2509 Lakewood Circle  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35405;

Richard L. Swaney  
P.O. Box 5  
Vienna, IL 62995; and

William R. Miller  
30725 21ST Avenue, Southwest  
Federal Way, Washington 98023

**DECLARATION**

Plaintiffs the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire, by and through their counsel, Orr & Reno, P.A., submit the following Declaration against Defendants Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc., G. Santy Lascano, David Owen, Ed Bosquet, Glenn E. Almy, Ronald G. Andress, Richard L. Swaney and William R. Miller:

**Introduction**

1. This case involves Defendant Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc. and several individuals, including the members of the Commission on Information for Recognition and current or former officers of Grand Lodges of Oregon, Washington, Oklahoma, Alabama, and Illinois, conspiring to interfere with the Plaintiff Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America's contractual relationships with Grand Commanderies of Knights Templar and individual Sir Knights through the use of defamatory misrepresentations. Consequently, the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of New Hampshire assert claims of civil conspiracy, interference with contractual relationships, defamation, and intentional and negligent misrepresentation against the Defendant organization and individuals.

Parties

2. Plaintiff Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America (the "Grand Encampment") is a voluntary association and fraternal organization that traces its roots to the 11<sup>th</sup> century. In February 1905, the United States Congress recognized the Grand Encampment and bestowed it with corporate status, including the right to hold and manage gifts and devises provided to it. The Grand Encampment's mailing address is c/o Sir Knight ("S.K.") Lawrence E. Tucker, 5909 West Loop South, Suite 495, Bellaire, Texas 77401-2402. The Grand Encampment has significant ties to New Hampshire, which are described in the succeeding paragraph.

3. Plaintiff Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire (the "Grand Commandery") is a voluntary association and fraternal organization. It is deemed a corporation pursuant to RSA 292:12-14. The Grand Commandery's mailing address is c/o S.K. Dennis A. Sheridan, P.O. Box 621, Littleton, New Hampshire 03561-0621. S.K. Sheridan, the Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery, is the designated New Hampshire representative of the Grand Encampment and the personal representative of Grand Encampment Grand Master S.K. William H. Koon, II. All past Grand Commanders of the Grand Commandery and the current Grand Commander and his three senior officers are members of the Grand Encampment. The Grand Commandery also boasts the Chairman of the Grand Encampment's Committee on Templar Jurisprudence, a Trustee of the Grand Encampment's Permanent Fund and a member of the Grand Encampment's Committee on Educational Foundation.

4. Defendant Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc. ("Conference") is a voluntary association and fraternal organization. It is a

corporation of the State of Missouri. Its mailing address is c/o Secretary/Treasurer Glenn Means, 2019 Northeast Avanti Court, Blue Springs, MO 64029-9368.

5. Defendant G. Santy Lascano is the Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Washington ("GLWA"), a voluntary association and fraternal organization. His mailing address is 123 Alder Street, Everett, WA 98203.

5. Defendant David Owen is the Grand Secretary of GLWA. His mailing address is 1941 Summit Lake Shore Road, Northwest, Olympia, WA 98502.

6. Defendant Ed Bousquet is the Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Oregon ("GLOR"), a voluntary association and fraternal organization. His mailing address is 62649 Erickson Road, Bend, OR 97701-9704.

7. Defendant Glenn E. Almy is the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Oklahoma ("GLOK"), a voluntary association and fraternal organization. His mailing address is 102 South Broad Street, P.O. Box 1019, Guthrie, OK 73044.

8. Defendant Ronald G. Andress is the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama ("GLAL"), a voluntary association and fraternal organization. His mailing address is 2509 Lakewood Circle, Tuscaloosa, AL 35405

9. Defendant Richard L. Swaney is the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Illinois, a voluntary association and fraternal organization. His mailing address is P.O. Box 5, Vienna, IL 62995.

10. Defendant William R. Miller is the Sovereign Grand Inspector General for the State of Washington of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction



("AASRSJ"), and Grand Minister of State of the AASRSJ. His mailing address is 30725 21ST Avenue, Southwest, Federal Way, WA 98023.

### **Jurisdiction and Venue**

11. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this proceeding pursuant to RSA 491:7. Venue is proper in Grafton County Superior Court because S.K. Sheridan resides in the jurisdiction, some of the Defendants' conduct occurred in Grafton County and the impact of Defendants' conduct reached into Grafton County.

### **Knights Templar, Grand Encampment and Grand Commandery**

12. The Knights Templar is a chivalric Masonic, Christian-oriented, voluntary and fraternal association based on an ancient organization that was founded in the 11<sup>th</sup> century. It operates on national, state and local levels, and annually raises millions of dollars for charitable purposes, including the support of Masonic-related youth groups. Its principal charities, The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, the Knights Templar Educational Foundation, and the Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund are 501(c)(3) entities and dependent upon contributions chiefly from members of the Order. The charities draw upon the officers of the Grand Encampment for their governance.

13. The Grand Encampment is the national level of the Knights Templar. It promulgates the laws governing the state and local level organizations. The three highest ranking officers are the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master and the Grand Generalissimo. The state level is the Grand Commandery and local level organizations are known as Commanderies. The Grand Commandery was established in May 1826.

14. Pursuant to the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, the Grand Encampment "has supreme legislative, judicial and executive power and jurisdiction over

the Orders of the Red Cross, Knights of Malta and Knights Templar within the United States of America and geographical regions over which the United States exercises jurisdiction.” The Grand Master is bestowed with the “power and authority to do and perform all such acts as he may deem for the interests of Templary and which are not contrary to [Templar law].” The specific responsibilities vested in the Grand Master include the following:

- (a) To maintain a watchful supervision over all Commanderies, Grand, Constituent and Subordinate; to see that all the Constitutional enactments, the Statutes, Edicts, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Encampment are duly and promptly obeyed . . . [;]
- (b) To visit and preside over any Grand, Constituent or Subordinate Commandery[;] . . . [and]
- (c) [T]o issue his proxy to any such member authorizing him to visit, inspect and preside over any Grand Commandery . . .

The Grand Master is also President of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

15. The Grand Commandery and Commanderies in each state are charged with collecting certain charitable funds, including contributions to the Knights Templar Educational Foundation, the Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund and the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. Separately, each Commandery collects dues from its individual Sir Knights and a portion of the funds are forwarded to the Grand Encampment to support its operations.

#### **GRAND PRIORY OF SCOTTISH REFORMED AND RECTIFIED RITE**

16. The Rectified Scottish Rite (the “RER”)<sup>1</sup> is the world’s oldest continuously extant chivalric Masonic Order. The RER’s governing bodies are called Great Priories. On January 22, 2011, in Marseilles, France, a patent was granted to the

<sup>1</sup> In the original French, *Rite Ecossais Rectifié*

Grand Encampment establishing the Eleventh Province of the RER. The Grand Encampment's Grand Master was installed as the Master of the Grand Priory of the RER of the United States of America. By these acts, the Great Priory of Occitania conferred upon the Grand Encampment the right to practice, and to bestow, the 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> Degrees of the Rectified Scottish Right.<sup>2</sup> The attendees at the ceremony included members of the following organizations: National Grand Lodge of France, American Canadian Grand Lodge, United Grand Lodge of England, and the Grand Lodges of Illinois, Indiana, New York, Ohio, Tennessee and Texas, all of them widely acknowledged as regular<sup>3</sup> and recognized.

#### **THE DEFAMATORY AND CONSPIRATORIAL CONDUCT**

17. In February 2011, Defendant Conference's Commission on Information for Recognition ("Commission") declared that:

the Great Priory of Occitania is an irregular body. It was self-created in 1995 by former members of the Great Priory of Gauls, which was declared irregular by the Grande Loge Nationale Francaise ["GLNF"], and its members expelled.<sup>[4]</sup>

The Commission went on to state that:

[t]his Commission does not normally concern itself with the affairs of appendant bodies; however, it is concerned about the negative impact on the established system of regularity in North American Freemasonry that may be caused by members of our Grand Lodges setting a precedent by becoming affiliated with organizations that receive their charter from an irregular source.

18. The falsity of this statement was acknowledged by no less an authority than Sir Knight and Brother Jean-Claude Tardivat, who served as the Deputy Grand Master of the GLNF until January of this year. S.K. Tardivat confirmed that no members

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<sup>2</sup> The 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> degrees are an esoteric and spiritual form of Templary. The Constitution of the Grand Encampment provides that the degrees can be conferred only through the Grand Encampment.

<sup>3</sup> In this context, "regular" means proper and established by the then-lawfully empowered body.

<sup>4</sup> In this context, "irregular" means falsely or not established by the then-lawfully empowered body.

of Great Priory of Occitania had been expelled from the GLNF; rather, some members of the Grand Priory had voluntarily relinquished their membership in that body. Moreover, the Commission's limited purpose had been stated by the committee appointed in 1951, by Most Worshipful Brother Reginald E. Goldsmith, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, then Chairman of the Conference as follows:<sup>5</sup>

Purpose: It shall be the duty of the Commission to assemble and collate information on Grand Lodges as a service to the Member Grand Lodges of this Conference.

To render an opinion concerning an entity other than a Masonic Grand Lodge is beyond the Commission's purview.<sup>6</sup>

19. Before the issuance of the Commission's report, Defendant Miller published a "Fact Sheet About the Three Masonic Templar Bodies" in which he declared:

[t]he problem that arises is that the Grand Encampment has made it known that it intends to create "lodges" in every jurisdiction where it has Grand Commanderies. To confer the C.B.C.S. degrees. Masonic degrees being conferred in every State, under a charter issued by an irregular Masonic body!

The allegation is entirely unfounded because the Grand Encampment did not receive patents from an irregular source and because it has neither formed nor expressed an intention to form "lodges" within the various States.

20. Defendant Miller distributed this and similar documents at multiple functions, including Masonic Week in Alexandria, Virginia, in February, 2011, whose participants included several New Hampshire Masons and Sir Knights. On or about March 26, 2011, Defendant Miller presented the documents to Defendant Lascano and the Officers of the Grand Commandery of Washington. On information and belief,

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<sup>5</sup> Brother Goldsmith was appointed one of the original members of the Commission the following year.

<sup>6</sup> In fact, at least one Grand Lodge has since forwarded a letter to the Commission rebuking it for exceeding the scope of its authority and recommending that the members of the Commission be replaced.

Defendant Miller made a similar presentation to Defendant Bosquet. On information and belief, Defendant Miller's purpose in distributing the documents and making the presentations was to motivate and encourage others to disseminate his claims throughout the Grand Lodges and Grand Commanderies of all fifty states, including New Hampshire.

21. On April 5, 2011, Defendant Lascano issued an edict in which he accused the Grand Encampment of "being associated with an irregular Masonic body in France" and therefore, being "equally irregular." The accusations are false because the Great Priory of Occitania is a regular Masonic body. Importantly, the accusations are devastating because Free and Accepted Masons and Sir Knights are prohibited from interacting with irregular bodies and individuals. In fact, Defendant Lascano's edict concludes as follows:

I therefore direct all Master Masons in the Jurisdiction of Grand Lodge of Washington, Free and Accepted Masons to refrain from any interaction with the Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the USA until this situation is resolved. Any known actions reference this matter by the brethren of this jurisdiction shall be reported to this office immediately. Masonic disciplinary actions will be imposed on any violators of this edict and will be subject to suspension or expulsion from this jurisdiction.

22. On April 25, 2011, Defendant Bousquet issued an edict that surpassed Defendant Lascano's edict. Defendant Bousquet's edict states as follows:

I am declaring the Grand Priory of the Reformed and Rectified Rite of the United States of America irregular and clandestine body in Oregon. Therefore, until the situation is resolved, an Oregon Mason who holds membership in any Masonic Body within, and/or governed by the Jurisdiction of the [GLOR] is hereby directed to refrain from any interaction with the Grand Priory of the Reformed and Rectified Rite of the United States of America or any member or members of this organization. This means no Oregon Mason may communicate on Masonic subjects formally or informally by the imparting or interchange of thoughts, opinions or information of speech, writing or signs. Any violation of this edict will result in disciplinary action that may result in suspension or expulsion from the Fraternity.

23. By letter dated April 20, 2011, Defendant Almy sent a letter to Defendant Bosquet lauding his "decisive leadership" on the issue. The letter states that members of the Grand Encampment will be barred from "the upcoming Spring meeting of the Grand Commandery of Oklahoma." The letter also includes the following directives and restrictions:

I am directing Sir Knight Dwayne Dixon, Right Eminent Grand Commander [of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Oklahoma], to not permit any representatives of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, or any other Sir Knight, who belongs to this irregular body, to attend the upcoming Spring meeting of the Grand Commandery of Oklahoma. I will not permit someone who has violated the obligation of a Master Mason to sit in a tiled meeting in Oklahoma.

Thus, the letter falsely accuses every member of the Grand Priory of the RER of the United States of America of having violated his Masonic obligations, and is especially devastating because it invites scorn and detestation from other Masons.

24. Defendant Almy's letter also states that the GLOK "endorses, supports, and offers whatever assistance is needed in your effort to conclude the matter in a satisfactory manner." A copy of the letter was provided to the Grand Master of each state, including New Hampshire.

25. By email dated May 6, 2011, Defendant Owen contacted the Grand Secretaries of the Grand Lodges of all fifty states, including New Hampshire. The email states as follows:

The GM of the [GLWA] has issued an edict declaring the Great Grand Priory of Occitania as irregular, and the Grand Priory of the Reformed and Rectified Rite of the United States of America, which was formed out of the Great Priory of Occitania, is also irregular. The situation has consumed way too much of my time but it is necessary. I am wondering how many other Grand Lodges have taken some form of action against the

Grand Priory of the Reformed and Rectified Rite of the United States of America, or are planning to take action.

This is truly a National Masonic problem.

26. By letter dated May 29, 2011, Defendant Andress falsely claimed that:

several Alabama Masons have been contacted and offered membership in the subject irregular body.

... it is therefore my decision and ruling that the "Grand Priory of the Reformed and Rectified Rite of the United States" is irregular by Masonic recognition standards and that no member of this Alabama Grand Jurisdiction shall have any interaction with this irregular body.

27. By letter dated July 8, 2011, Defendant Swaney declared the Grand Priory of the RER of the United States of America "irregular" and decreed that no Illinois Mason "shall have any interaction with nor become a member of this irregular body." Defendant Swaney went on to direct that the letter be made a part of the permanent record of each Masonic Lodge in Illinois.

28. Upon information and belief, the purpose of the above-described conduct of Defendants Conference, Miller, Lascano, Bousquet, Almy, Owen and Swaney was to motivate and encourage others to disseminate Defendant Miller's claims throughout the Grand Lodges and Grand Commanderies of all fifty states, including New Hampshire.

### **CAUSES OF ACTION**

#### **Count I**

#### **Intentional Interference with Contractual Relations**

29. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery reassert all of the facts alleged in paragraphs 1-28 above.

30. The elements of intentional interference with contractual relations are:

(a) there must be a contractual relationship between the plaintiff and a third party; (b) the

defendant must be aware of the contractual relationship; (c) the defendant must intentionally and unlawfully interfere with the relationship; and (d) the plaintiff must be damaged by the interference. *Singer Asset Finance Co., LLC v. Wyner*, 156 N.H. 468, 478 (2007).

31. When the Defendants falsely accused the Grand Encampment of being irregular they intentionally interfered with the Grand Encampment's and the Grand Commandery's contractual relationships with their Sir Knights. Specifically, the false accusations impaired each organization's likelihood and ability to collect dues from its Sir Knights, and rendered it impossible for the Grand Encampment to oversee funds collected for the charitable purposes described in paragraph 16 above.

32. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery are entitled to compensation in the form of monetary damages, plus attorneys' fees and costs, for the damages suffered as a result of Defendants' intentional interference with contractual relations.

## **Count II Intentional Misrepresentation**

33. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery reassert all of the facts alleged in paragraphs 1-32 above.

34. When Defendants made the misrepresentations referenced in paragraphs 17-28 above, they made the misrepresentations with knowledge of their falsity or with conscious indifference to their truth with the intention of causing other Masons and Sir Knights to rely on them. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery were damaged by the intentional misrepresentations.



35. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery are entitled to compensation in the form of monetary damages, plus attorneys' fees and costs, for the damages suffered as a result of Defendants' intentional misrepresentations.

**Count III  
Negligent Misrepresentation**

36. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery reassert all of the facts alleged in paragraphs 1-35 above.

37. Defendants made the misrepresentations referenced in paragraphs 17-27 above negligently. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery were damaged by the negligent misrepresentations.

38. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery are entitled to compensation in the form of monetary damages, plus attorneys' fees and costs, for the damages suffered as a result of Defendants' negligent misrepresentations.

**Count IV  
Civil Conspiracy**

39. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery reassert all of the facts alleged in paragraphs 1-38 above.

40. When Defendants made the misrepresentations and engaged in the conduct referenced in paragraphs 17-28 above, they engaged in a civil conspiracy; that is, they were two or more persons who agreed to, and achieved, an unlawful object and committed one or more overt acts. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery were damaged as a proximate result of the civil conspiracy.

41. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery are entitled to damages resulting from Defendants' civil conspiracy, including interest and all costs and attorneys' fees as have been incurred by the necessity of this action.

**JURY TRIAL DEMAND**

42. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery assert their rights to a jury trial on their causes of action.

WHEREFORE, the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire respectfully request that the Honorable Court:

A. Award monetary damages, including attorneys' fees and costs, to the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire in an amount determined by a jury; and

B. Grant such additional relief as justice requires.

Respectfully submitted,

GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS  
TEMPLAR OF THE UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA; and

GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS  
TEMPLAR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

By their attorneys,

Dated: 8/3/11

By: 

Michael D. Ramsdell  
Orr & Reno, P.A.  
One Eagle Square, P.O. Box 3550  
Concord, NH 03102-3550  
(603) 625-1254  
mramsdell@orr-reno.com

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
JUDICIAL BRANCH**

Grafton Superior Court  
3785 D.C. Highway  
North Haverhill NH 03774

Telephone: (603) 787-6961  
TTY/TDD Relay: (800) 735-2964  
<http://www.courts.state.nh.us>

**RECEIPT OF WRIT**

Case Name: **Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, et al  
v Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc., et al**  
Case Number: **215-2011-CV-00338**

The writ in the above-captioned matter was filed with the Clerk of this Court on: August 05, 2011 at 9:16 a.m.

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire; Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America or his/her attorney is to attach a copy of this Receipt to identical copies of the original writ and deliver them to the Sheriff or other legally authorized entity for service on Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc.; G Santy Lascano; David P Owen; Ed Bousquet; Glenn E Almy; Ronald G Andress; Richard L Swaney. Sufficient copies shall be provided to allow for a service copy for each named defendant and a copy for each officer completing service to complete the return. The return copies shall be filed with the Court in accordance with Superior Court Rule 3.

BY ORDER OF THE COURT

August 23, 2011

David P. Carlson  
Clerk of Court

(468)

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THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

GCSC-SEP30'11AM10:19

GRAFTON, SS.

SUPERIOR COURT

SPECIAL APPEARANCE

GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ET AL

v.

CONFERENCE OF GRAND MASTERS OF MASONS  
IN NORTH AMERICA, INC. ET AL

215-2011-CV-00338

Returnable on the first Tuesday of October, 2011

( ) Court  
(X) Jury

SPECIAL APPEARANCE

WITHDRAWAL

Please enter my special appearance as:

Please withdraw my appearance as:

☒ Counsel for:

☐ Counsel for:

GLENN E. ALMY

☐ Pro se

☐ Pro se

Notice of Withdrawal sent to my clients on:

at the following address:


I hereby certify that duplicates of this notice were

☐ delivered ☒ mailed to:

Michael D. Ramsdell, Esq.  
Orr & Reno, P.A.  
P.O. Box 3550  
Concord, NH 03302-3550

On: September 28, 2011

By:

  
Jamie N. Hage, Esq. (NHB #1054)  
Kathleen A. Davidson, Esq. (NHB #19535)  
Hage Hodes, Professional Association  
1855 Elm Street  
Manchester, New Hampshire 03104  
Tel.: (603) 668-2222

31

## THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

## JUDICIAL BRANCH

http://www.courts.state.nh.us

GCSC-OCT 3'11AM18:02

Court Name: Grafton Superior CourtCase Name: Grand Encampment of Knights Templar et al v. Conference of Grand Master MasonsCase Number: 215-2011-CV-00338  
(if known)**MOTION TO EXTEND TIME TO ANSWER COMPLAINT**1. Name of person motioning: Ronald Andress Telephone: (205) 799-2796Capacity of person motioning: (relationship to case) DefendantMailing Address: 2509 Lakewood Circle, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 354052. Attorney Name: Steven Tidwell (ASB-5123-V83T) Telephone: (256) 239-0111Mailing Address: 410 Woodland Avenue3. I would like the court to extend the time in which I have to answer the Complaint filed in the above-referenced matter for 30 days.

4. The specific basis or reasons for my motion are as follows:

The Defendant Andress has been engaged in settlement negotiations with the Plaintiff through his counsel, a licensed Alabama attorney. Those negotiations have reached an impasse. The Defendant Andress requests additional time to answer the Complaint in order to secure local counsel in the matter. The Plaintiff's Attorney does not object to this motion and the Defendant respectfully submits this request for extension.

5. The plaintiff ☐ objects ☒ does not object to this Motion.

6. I hereby certify that I have given/mailed a copy of this Motion to [the name of the plaintiff]:

Grand Encampment of Knights Templar via Plaintiff's Counsel, Michael Ramsdell

WHEREFORE, I respectfully request that the Court enter the following order:

A. That the deadline to answer the Complaint be extended as requested; and

B. For such other relief as the Court deems just and equitable.

Date 09/28/2011

Signature

State of Alabama, County of CalhounThis instrument was acknowledged before me on 9-28-2011 by Steven TidwellMy Commission Expires Nov. 2012

Affix Seal, if any

Signature of Notarial Officer / Title

**ORDER**Motion: ☐ GRANTED ☐ DENIED ☐ OTHER:

Date

Presiding Justice

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Filed 10/31/11

GRAFTON, SS.

SUPERIOR COURT

Docket No. 215-2011-CV-00338

Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America

and

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire

v.

Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc.;

G. Santy Lascano;

David P. Owen;

Ed Bousquet;

Glenn E. Almy;

Ronald G. Andress;

Richard L. Swaney; and

William R. Miller

**AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE**

I, Michael D. Ramsdell, counsel for Plaintiffs Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire in the above-captioned action, attest to the veracity of the following:

1. On or about August 3, 2011, the writ in the above-captioned matter was filed with the Grafton County Superior Court.
2. On August 26, 2011, the Secretary of State certified that the writ was served on him on behalf of each of the eight named defendants.

3. On September 8, 2011, certified letters addressed to Defendant Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc., and each of the seven individual defendants were delivered to the Postal Service for delivery to each of the eight named defendants.

4. On September 12, 2011, the Notice of the certified letter was left at Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc., c/o Secretary/Treasurer Glenn Means, 2019 Northeast Avanti Court, Blue Springs, MO 64029-9368. Thus, service has been accomplished on Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc., pursuant to RSA 510:4 and RSA 304-C:71.

5. On September 14, 2011, the Notice of the certified letter was delivered to G. Santy Lascano, 123 Adler Street, Everett, WA 98203. Thus, service has been accomplished on G. Santy Lascano pursuant to RSA 510:4 and RSA 304-C:71.

6. On September 14, 2011, the Notice of the certified letter was delivered to David P. Owen, 1941 Summit Lake Shore Road Northwest, Olympia, WA 98502. Thus, service has been accomplished on David P. Owen pursuant to RSA 510:4 and RSA 304-C:71.

7. On September 20, 2011, the Notice of the certified letter was delivered to Ed Bousquet, 62649 Erickson Road, Bend, OR 97701-9704. Thus, service has been accomplished on Ed Bousquet pursuant to RSA 510:4 and RSA 304-C:71.

8. On September 12, 2011, the Notice of the certified letter was delivered to Glenn E. Almy, 102 South Broad Street, P.O. Box 1019, Guthrie, OK 73044. Thus, service has been accomplished on Glenn E. Almy pursuant to RSA 510:4 and RSA 304-C:71.

9. On September 12, 2011, the Notice of the certified letter was delivered to Ronald G. Andress, 2509 Lakewood Circle, Tuscaloosa, AL 35405. Thus, service has been accomplished on Ronald G. Andress pursuant to RSA 510:4 and RSA 304-C:71.

10. On September 14, 2011, the Notice of the certified letter was delivered to Richard L. Swaney, P.O. Box 5, Vienna, IL 62995. Thus, service has been accomplished on Richard L. Swaney pursuant to RSA 510:4 and RSA 304-C:71.

11. On September 12, 2011, the Notice of the certified letter was delivered to William R. Miller, 30725 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Southwest, Federal Way, Washington 98023. Thus, service has been accomplished on William R. Miller pursuant to RSA 510:4 and RSA 304-C:71.

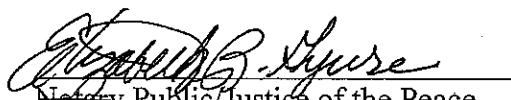
Dated: September 30, 2011

  
Michael D. Ramsdell

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
COUNTY OF MERRIMACK

Personally appeared before me on this 30th day of September, 2011, the above-named Michael D. Ramsdell and made oath that the foregoing statements by him subscribed are true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Before me,

  
Notary Public/Justice of the Peace




Respectfully submitted,

GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS  
TEMPLAR OF THE UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA; and

GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS  
TEMPLAR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

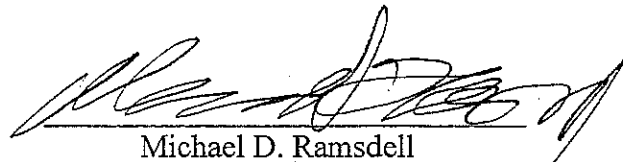
By their attorney,

Dated: September 30, 2011

By:   
Michael D. Ramsdell (Bar No. 2096)  
Orr & Reno, P.A.  
One Eagle Square, P.O. Box 3550  
Concord, NH 03102-3550  
(603) 223-9185  
mramsdell@orr-reno.com

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing was this day forwarded to Attorneys Jamie N. Hage and Kathleen A. Davidson.

  
Michael D. Ramsdell

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THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SCSC-OCT 3/11AM 9:45

GRAFTON, SS.

SUPERIOR COURT

Docket No. 215-2011-CV-00338

Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America

and

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire

v.

Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc.;

G. Santy Lascano;

David P. Owen;

Ed Bousquet;

Glenn E. Almy;

Ronald G. Andress;

Richard L. Swaney; and

William R. Miller

**PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO AMEND DECLARATION**

Plaintiffs the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire, by and through their counsel, Orr & Reno, P.A., respectfully move to amend the Declaration they filed in support of the writ dated August 3, 2011. In support of their motion, Plaintiffs represent the following:

1. On or about August 4, 2011, Plaintiffs filed their writ and Declaration, which alleges the following cause of actions: (a) civil conspiracy; (b) interference with contractual relationships; (c) defamation; and (d) intentional and negligent misrepresentation against the Defendant organization and individuals. The return date for the action is October 4, 2011.

2. As of the signing of this pleading, Plaintiffs have received a special appearance for only one Defendant, Glenn E. Almy. Otherwise, Plaintiffs are unaware of any appearances having been filed on behalf of the other Defendants.

3. After the filing of the writ, Plaintiffs became aware of similar conduct by Donald H. Yankey, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky. Accordingly, Plaintiffs seek to amend their Declaration to include Mr. Yankey as a defendant in all of the causes of action, including civil conspiracy.

4. Consistent with New Hampshire's liberal view on the amendment of claims, timely substantive amendments are allowed when "just and reasonable." RSA 514:9 ("Amendments in matters of substance may be permitted in any action, in any stage of the proceedings, upon such terms as the court shall deem just and reasonable, when it shall appear to the court that it is necessary for the prevention of injustice; but the rights of third persons shall not be affected thereby."). Given that the return date has not yet passed, discovery has not commenced and no deadlines have been established, Plaintiffs should be afforded the opportunity to amend their Declaration to add Mr. Yankey as a party Defendant and to add the necessary additional factual allegations. *See Dent v. Exeter Hospital, Inc.*, 155 N.H. 787, 796 (2007).

5. A copy of the Amended Declaration is submitted with this pleading.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire, respectfully request that the Honorable Court:

A. Grant Plaintiffs' Motion to Amend Declaration; and

B. Grant such further relief as justice requires.


Respectfully submitted,

GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS  
TEMPLAR OF THE UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA; and

GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS  
TEMPLAR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

By their attorneys,

Dated: September 30, 2011

By:   
Michael D. Ramsdell (Bar No. 2096)  
Orr & Reno, P.A.  
One Eagle Square, P.O. Box 3550  
Concord, NH 03102-3550  
(603) 223-9185  
mramsdell@orr-reno.com

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing was this day forwarded to Attorneys Jamie N. Hage and Kathleen A. Davidson.

  
Michael D. Ramsdell

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THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

GRAFTON, SS.

SUPERIOR COURT

Docket No. 215-2011-CV-00338

Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America  
c/o S. K. Lawrence E. Tucker  
5909 West Loop South, Suite 495  
Bellaire, Texas 77401-2402; and

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire  
c/o S.K. Dennis A. Sheridan  
P.O. Box 621  
Littleton, NH 03561-0621

v.

Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc.  
c/o Secretary/Treasurer Glenn Means  
2019 Northeast Avanti Court  
Blue Springs, MO 64029-9368;

G. Santy Lascano  
123 Alder Street  
Everett, WA 98203;

David P. Owen  
1941 Summit Lake Shore Road Northwest  
Olympia, WA 98502;

Ed Bousquet  
62649 Erickson Road  
Bend, OR 97701-9704;

Glenn E. Almy  
102 South Broad Street  
P.O. Box 1019  
Guthrie, OK 73044;

Ronald G. Andress  
2509 Lakewood Circle  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35405;

Richard L. Swaney  
P.O. Box 5  
Vienna, IL 62995;

609-607 3114H 3:46

William R. Miller  
30725 21ST Avenue, Southwest  
Federal Way, Washington 98023; and

Donald H. Yankey  
6599 East Manslick Road  
Louisville, KY 40228

### **AMENDED DECLARATION**

Plaintiffs the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire, by and through their counsel, Orr & Reno, P.A., submit the following Amended Declaration against Defendants Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc., G. Santy Lascano, David Owen, Ed Bosquet, Glenn E. Almy, Ronald G. Andress, Richard L. Swaney, William R. Miller and Donald H. Yankey:

#### **Introduction**

1. This case involves Defendant Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc. and several individuals, including the members of the Commission on Information for Recognition and current or former officers of Grand Lodges of Oregon, Washington, Oklahoma, Alabama, Illinois and Kentucky, conspiring to interfere with the Plaintiff Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America's contractual relationships with Grand Commanderies of Knights Templar and individual Sir Knights through the use of defamatory misrepresentations. Consequently, the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of New Hampshire

assert claims of civil conspiracy, interference with contractual relationships, defamation, and intentional and negligent misrepresentation against the Defendant organization and individuals.

**Parties**

2. Plaintiff Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America (the "Grand Encampment") is a voluntary association and fraternal organization that traces its roots to the 11<sup>th</sup> century. In February 1905, the United States Congress recognized the Grand Encampment and bestowed it with corporate status, including the right to hold and manage gifts and devises provided to it. The Grand Encampment's mailing address is c/o Sir Knight ("S.K.") Lawrence E. Tucker, 5909 West Loop South, Suite 495, Bellaire, Texas 77401-2402. The Grand Encampment has significant ties to New Hampshire, which are described in the succeeding paragraph.

3. Plaintiff Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire (the "Grand Commandery") is a voluntary association and fraternal organization. It is deemed a corporation pursuant to RSA 292:12-14. The Grand Commandery's mailing address is c/o S.K. Dennis A. Sheridan, P.O. Box 621, Littleton, New Hampshire 03561-0621. S.K. Sheridan, the Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery, is the designated New Hampshire representative of the Grand Encampment and the personal representative of Grand Encampment Grand Master S.K. William H. Koon, II. All past Grand Commanders of the Grand Commandery and the current Grand Commander and his three senior officers are members of the Grand Encampment. The Grand Commandery also boasts the Chairman of the Grand Encampment's Committee on Templar Jurisprudence, a Trustee of the Grand Encampment's Permanent Fund and a member of the Grand Encampment's Committee on Educational Foundation.

4. Defendant Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc. ("Conference") is a voluntary association and fraternal organization. It is a corporation of the State of Missouri. Its mailing address is c/o Secretary/Treasurer Glenn Means, 2019 Northeast Avanti Court, Blue Springs, MO 64029-9368.

5. Defendant G. Santy Lascano is the Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Washington ("GLWA"), a voluntary association and fraternal organization. His mailing address is 123 Alder Street, Everett, WA 98203.

5. Defendant David Owen is the Grand Secretary of GLWA. His mailing address is 1941 Summit Lake Shore Road, Northwest, Olympia, WA 98502.

6. Defendant Ed Bousquet is the Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Oregon ("GLOR"), a voluntary association and fraternal organization. His mailing address is 62649 Erickson Road, Bend, OR 97701-9704.

7. Defendant Glenn E. Almy is the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Oklahoma ("GLOK"), a voluntary association and fraternal organization. His mailing address is 102 South Broad Street, P.O. Box 1019, Guthrie, OK 73044.

8. Defendant Ronald G. Andress is the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama ("GLAL"), a voluntary association and fraternal organization. His mailing address is 2509 Lakewood Circle, Tuscaloosa, AL 35405

9. Defendant Richard L. Swaney is the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Illinois, a voluntary association and fraternal organization. His mailing address is P.O. Box 5, Vienna, IL 62995.



10. Defendant William R. Miller is the Sovereign Grand Inspector General for the State of Washington of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction ("AASRSJ"), and Grand Minister of State of the AASRSJ. His mailing address is 30725 21ST Avenue, Southwest, Federal Way, WA 98023.

11. Defendant Donald H. Yankey is the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Kentucky, a voluntary association and fraternal organization. His mailing address is 6599 East Manslick, Louisville, Kentucky 40228.

#### **Jurisdiction and Venue**

12. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this proceeding pursuant to RSA 491:7. Venue is proper in Grafton County Superior Court because S.K. Sheridan resides in the jurisdiction, some of the Defendants' conduct occurred in Grafton County and the impact of Defendants' conduct reached into Grafton County.

#### **Knights Templar, Grand Encampment and Grand Commandery**

13. The Knights Templar is a chivalric Masonic, Christian-oriented, voluntary and fraternal association based on an ancient organization that was founded in the 11<sup>th</sup> century. It operates on national, state and local levels, and annually raises millions of dollars for charitable purposes, including the support of Masonic-related youth groups. Its principal charities, The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, the Knights Templar Educational Foundation, and the Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund are 501(c)(3) entities and dependent upon contributions chiefly from members of the Order. The charities draw upon the officers of the Grand Encampment for their governance.

14. The Grand Encampment is the national level of the Knights Templar. It promulgates the laws governing the state and local level organizations. The three highest

ranking officers are the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master and the Grand Generalissimo. The state level is the Grand Commandery and local level organizations are known as Commanderies. The Grand Commandery was established in May 1826.

15. Pursuant to the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, the Grand Encampment “has supreme legislative, judicial and executive power and jurisdiction over the Orders of the Red Cross, Knights of Malta and Knights Templar within the United States of America and geographical regions over which the United States exercises jurisdiction.” The Grand Master is bestowed with the “power and authority to do and perform all such acts as he may deem for the interests of Templary and which are not contrary to [Templar law].” The specific responsibilities vested in the Grand Master include the following:

- (a) To maintain a watchful supervision over all Commanderies, Grand, Constituent and Subordinate; to see that all the Constitutional enactments, the Statutes, Edicts, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Encampment are duly and promptly obeyed . . . .[;]
- (b) To visit and preside over any Grand, Constituent or Subordinate Commandery[;] . . . [and]
- (c) [T]o issue his proxy to any such member authorizing him to visit, inspect and preside over any Grand Commandery . . . .

The Grand Master is also President of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

16. The Grand Commandery and Commanderies in each state are charged with collecting certain charitable funds, including contributions to the Knights Templar Educational Foundation, the Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund and the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. Each Commandery collects dues from its individual Sir Knights and a portion of the funds are forwarded to the Grand Encampment.

**GRAND PRIORY OF SCOTTISH REFORMED AND RECTIFIED RITE**

17. The Scottish Rectified Rite (the “RER”) is the world’s oldest continuously extant chivalric Masonic Order. The RER’s governing bodies are called Great Pories. On January 22, 2011, in Marseilles, France, a patent was granted to the Grand Encampment establishing the Eleventh Province of the RER. The Grand Encampment’s Grand Master was installed as the Master of the Grand Priory of the RER of the United States of America. The chief officers of the Grand Encampment also serve as the chief officers of the Grand Priory of the RER of the United States of America.

18. By these acts, the Great Priory of Occitania conferred upon the Grand Encampment the right to practice, and to bestow, the 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> Degrees of the Rectified Scottish Right.<sup>1</sup> The attendees at the ceremony included members of the following organizations: National Grand Lodge of France, American Canadian Grand Lodge, United Grand Lodge of England, and the Grand Lodges of Illinois, Indiana, New York, Ohio, Tennessee and Texas, all of them widely acknowledged as regular<sup>2</sup> and recognized.

**THE DEFAMATORY AND CONSPIRATORIAL CONDUCT**

19. In February 2011, Defendant Conference’s Commission on Information for Recognition (“Commission”) declared that:

the Great Priory of Occitania is an irregular body. It was self-created in 1995 by former members of the Great Priory of Gauls, which was declared irregular by the Grande Loge Nationale Francaise [“GLNF”], and its members expelled.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> degrees are an esoteric and spiritual form of Templary. The Constitution of the Grand Encampment provides that the degrees can be conferred only through the Grand Encampment.

<sup>2</sup> In this context, “regular” means proper and established by the then-lawfully empowered body.

<sup>3</sup> In this context, “irregular” means falsely or not established by the then-lawfully empowered body.

The Commission, of which the Grand Commandery is a member, went on to state that:

[t]his Commission does not normally concern itself with the affairs of appendant bodies; however, it is concerned about the negative impact on the established system of regularity in North American Freemasonry that may be caused by members of our Grand Lodges setting a precedent by becoming affiliated with organizations that receive their charter from an irregular source.

20. The falsity of this statement was acknowledged by no less an authority than Sir Knight and Brother Jean-Claude Tardivat, who served as the Deputy Grand Master of the GLNF until January of this year. S.K. Tardivat confirmed that no members of Great Priory of Occitania had been expelled from the GLNF; rather, some members of the Grand Priory had voluntarily relinquished their membership in that body. Moreover, the Commission's limited purpose had been stated by the committee appointed in 1951, by Most Worshipful Brother Reginald E. Goldsmith, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, then Chairman of the Conference:

Purpose: It shall be the duty of the Commission to assemble and collate information on Grand Lodges as a service to the Member Grand Lodges of this Conference.

Brother Goldsmith was appointed one of the original members of the Commission the following year. To render an opinion concerning an entity other than a Masonic Grand Lodge is beyond the Commission's purview.

21. Before the issuance of the Commission's report, Defendant Miller published a "Fact Sheet About the Three Masonic Templar Bodies" in which he declared:

[t]he problem that arises is that the Grand Encampment has made it known that it intends to create "lodges" in every jurisdiction where it has Grand Commanderies. To confer the C.B.C.S. degrees. Masonic degrees being conferred in every State, under a charter issued by an irregular Masonic body!

The allegation is entirely unfounded because the Grand Encampment did not receive patents from an irregular source and because it has neither formed nor expressed an intention to form "lodges" within the various States.

22. Defendant Miller distributed this and similar documents at multiple functions, including Masonic Week in Alexandria, Virginia, in February, 2011, whose participants included several New Hampshire Masons and Sir Knights. On or about March 26, 2011, Defendant Miller presented the documents to Defendant Lascano and the Officers of the Grand Commandery of Washington. On information and belief, Defendant Miller made a similar presentation to Defendant Bosquet. On information and belief, Defendant Miller's purpose in distributing the documents and making the presentations was to motivate and encourage others to disseminate his claims throughout the Grand Commanderies of all fifty states, including New Hampshire.

23. On April 5, 2011, Defendant Lascano issued an edict in which he accused the Grand Encampment of "being associated with an irregular Masonic body in France" and therefore, being "equally irregular." The accusations are false because the Great Priory of Occitania is a regular Masonic body. Importantly, the accusations are devastating because Free and Accepted Masons and Sir Knights are prohibited from interacting with irregular bodies and individuals. In fact, Defendant Lascano's edict concludes as follows:

I therefore direct all Master Masons in the Jurisdiction of Grand Lodge of Washington, Free and Accepted Masons to refrain from any interaction with the Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the USA until this situation is resolved. Any known actions reference this matter by the brethren of this jurisdiction shall be reported to this office immediately. Masonic disciplinary actions will be imposed on any violators of this edict and will be subject to suspension or expulsion from this jurisdiction.

24. On April 25, 2011, Defendant Bousquet issued an edict that surpassed Defendant Lascano's edict. Defendant Bousquet's edict states as follows:

I am declaring the Grand Priory of the Reformed and Rectified Rite of the United States of America irregular and clandestine body in Oregon. Therefore, until the situation is resolved, an Oregon Mason who holds membership in any Masonic Body within, and/or governed by the Jurisdiction of the [GLOR] is hereby directed to refrain from any interaction with the Grand Priory of the Reformed and Rectified Rite of the United States of America or any member or members of this organization. This means no Oregon Mason may communicate on Masonic subjects formally or informally by the imparting or interchange of thoughts, opinions or information of speech, writing or signs. Any violation of this edict will result in disciplinary action that may result in suspension or expulsion from the Fraternity.

25. By letter dated April 20, 2011, Defendant Almy sent a letter to Defendant Bosquet lauding his "decisive leadership" on the issue. The letter states that members of the Grand Encampment will be barred from "the upcoming Spring meeting of the Grand Commandery of Oklahoma." The letter also includes the following directives and restrictions:

I am directing Sir Knight Dwayne Dixon, Right Eminent Grand Commander [of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Oklahoma], to not permit any representatives of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, or any other Sir Knight, who belongs to this irregular body, to attend the upcoming Spring meeting of the Grand Commandery of Oklahoma. I will not permit someone who has violated the obligation of a Master Mason to sit in a tiled meeting in Oklahoma.

Thus, the letter falsely accuses every member of the Grand Priory of the RER of the United States of America of having violated his Masonic obligations, and is especially devastating because it invites scorn and detestation from other Masons.

26. Defendant Almy's letter also states that the GLOK "endorses, supports, and offers whatever assistance is needed in your effort to conclude the matter in a satisfactory manner." A copy of the letter was provided the Grand Master of each state, including New Hampshire.

27. By email dated May 6, 2011, Defendant Owen contacted the Grand Secretaries of the Grand Lodges of all fifty states, including New Hampshire. The email states as follows:

The GM of the [GLWA] has issued an edict declaring the Great Grand Priory of Occitania as irregular, and the Grand Priory of the Reformed and Rectified Rite of the United States of America, which was formed out of the Great Priory of Occitania, is also irregular. The situation has consumed way too much of my time but it is necessary. I am wondering how many other Grand Lodges have taken some form of action against the Grand Priory of the Reformed and Rectified Rite of the United States of America, or are planning to take action.

This is truly a National Masonic problem.

28. By letter of May 29, 2011, Defendant Andress claimed wrongly that:

several Alabama Masons have been contacted and offered membership in the subject irregular body.

... it is therefore my decision and ruling that the "Grand Priory of the Reformed and Rectified Rite of the United States" is irregular by Masonic recognition standards and that no member of this Alabama Grand Jurisdiction shall have any interaction with this irregular body.

29. By letter of July 8, 2011, Defendant Swaney declared the Grand Priory of the RER of the United States of America "irregular" and decreed that no Illinois Mason "shall have any interaction with nor become a member of this irregular body." Defendant Swaney went on to direct that the letter be made a part of the permanent record of each Masonic Lodge in Illinois.

30. By Grand Masters Decision dated July 26, 2011, Defendant Yankey not only reported the Commission's report, but also "declare[d] the Grand Priory of the Reformed and Rectified Rite of the United States to be irregular . . . ." The Grand Masters Decision further "direct[ed] that no member of The Grand Lodge of Kentucky, F. & A.M. shall heretofore have any interaction with this body."

31. Upon information and belief, the purpose of the above-described conduct of Defendants Conference, Miller, Lascano, Bousquet, Almy, Owen, Swaney and Yankey was to motivate and encourage others to disseminate the claim of “irregularity” throughout the Grand Commanderies of all fifty states, including New Hampshire. Defendants knew such a claim would result in the Grand Commanderies being prohibited from interacting with Plaintiffs the Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery.

### **CAUSES OF ACTION**

#### **Count I**

#### **Intentional Interference with Contractual Relations**

32. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery reassert all of the facts alleged in paragraphs 1-31 above.

33. The elements of intentional interference with contractual relations are: (a) there must be a contractual relationship between the plaintiff and a third party; (b) the defendant must be aware of the contractual relationship; (c) the defendant must intentionally and unlawfully interfere with the relationship; and (d) the plaintiff must be damaged by the interference. *Singer Asset Finance Co., LLC v. Wyner*, 156 N.H. 468, 478 (2007).

34. When the Defendants falsely accused the Grand Encampment of being irregular they intentionally interfered with the Grand Encampment’s and the Grand Commandery’s contractual relationships with their Sir Knights. Specifically, the false accusations impaired each organization’s likelihood and ability to collect dues from its Sir Knights, and rendered it impossible for the Grand Encampment to oversee funds collected for the charitable purposes described in paragraph 16 above.



35. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery are entitled to compensation in the form of monetary damages, plus attorneys' fees and costs, for the damages suffered as a result of Defendants' intentional interference with contractual relations.

**Count II**  
**Intentional Misrepresentation**

36. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery reassert all of the facts alleged in paragraphs 1-35 above.

37. When Defendants made the misrepresentations referenced in paragraphs 19-30 above, they made the misrepresentations with knowledge of their falsity or with conscious indifference to their truth with the intention of causing other Masons and Sir Knights to rely on them. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery were damaged by the intentional misrepresentations.

38. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery are entitled to compensation in the form of monetary damages, plus attorneys' fees and costs, for its damages suffered as a result of Defendants' intentional misrepresentations.

**Count III**  
**Negligent Misrepresentation**

39. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery reassert all of the facts alleged in paragraphs 1-38 above.

40. Defendants made the misrepresentations referenced in paragraphs 19-30 above negligently. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery were damaged by the negligent misrepresentations.

41. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery are entitled to compensation in the form of monetary damages, plus attorneys' fees and costs, for its damages suffered as a result of Defendants' negligent misrepresentations.

**Count IV  
Civil Conspiracy**

42. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery reassert all of the facts alleged in paragraphs 1-41 above.

43. When Defendants made the misrepresentations and engaged in the conduct referenced in paragraphs 19-30 above, they engaged in a civil conspiracy; that is, they were two or more persons who agreed to, and achieved, an unlawful object and committed one or more overt acts. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery were damaged as a proximate result of the civil conspiracy.

44. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery are entitled to damages resulting from Defendants' civil conspiracy, including interest and all costs and attorneys' fees as have been incurred by the necessity of this action.

**JURY TRIAL DEMAND**

45. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery assert their rights to a jury trial on their causes of action.

WHEREFORE, the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire respectfully request that the Honorable Court:

A. Award monetary damages, including attorneys' fees and costs, to the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire in an amount determined by a jury; and

B. Grant such additional relief as justice requires.

Respectfully submitted,

GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF  
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE UNITED STATES  
OF AMERICA; and GRAND COMMANDERY  
OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

By their attorneys,

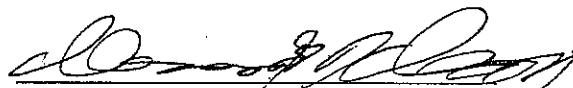
Dated: September 30, 2011

By: 

Michael D. Ramsdell (Bar No. 2096)  
Orr & Reno, P.A.  
One Eagle Square, P.O. Box 3550  
Concord, NH 03102-3550  
(603) 223-9185  
[mramsdell@orr-reno.com](mailto:mramsdell@orr-reno.com)

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing was this day forwarded to Attorneys Jamie N. Hage and Kathleen A. Davidson.

  
Michael D. Ramsdell

809640\_1.DOC

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

6030-007 5:11AM 9-41

Grand Encampment of Knights Templar )  
of the United States of America, c/o )  
Lawrence E. Tucker, Grand Commandery )  
of Knights Templar of New Hampshire c/o )  
S.K. Dennis A. Sheridan )

PLAINTIFFS )

v. )

Civil Action No. \_\_\_\_\_

Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in )  
North America, Inc., G. Santy Lascano )  
David P. Owen, Ed Bousquet, )  
Glenn E. Almy, Ronald G. Andress, )  
Richard L. Swaney, William R. Miller )

DEFENDANTS )

**NOTICE TO GRAFTON COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT  
OF REMOVAL TO FEDERAL COURT**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that this case pending in your Court as Docket Number 215-2011-CV-00338 has been removed to the United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446 by all of the defendants. A copy of the Notice of Removal filed with the United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire, is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

The defendants respectfully request that the Grafton County Superior Court provide a certified copy of its docket and all papers filed in that Court so that same may be filed in the United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 81

Respectfully Submitted,  
The Defendants,  
G. Santy Lascano, David P. Owen,  
and William R. Miller,  
By their attorney,

/s/ Mark A. Darling  
Mark A. Darling, Esquire  
Litchfield Cavo LLP  
6 Kimball Lane, Suite 200  
Lynnfield, MA 01940  
(781) 309-1500  
N.H. Bar #: 4803

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Mark A. Darling, hereby certify that on October 3, 2011 a true copy of the above document was served by first class mail to:

Michael D. Ramsdell, Esquire  
Orr & Reno, P.A.  
One Eagle Square  
P.O. Box 3550  
Concord, NH 03302-3550

Thomas Pappas, Esquire  
Jennifer T. Beudet, Esquire  
Wiggin & Nourie, P.A.  
670 North Commercial Street, Suite 305  
P.O. Box 808  
Manchester, NH 03105-0808

Jamie N. Hage, Esquire  
Kathleen Davidson, Esquire  
Hage Hodes, PA  
1855 Elm Street  
Manchester, New Hampshire 03104

/s/ Mark A. Darling  
Mark A. Darling

# EXHIBIT 1

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Grand Encampment of Knights Templar )  
of the United States of America, c/o )  
Lawrence E. Tucker, Grand Commandery )  
of Knights Templar of New Hampshire c/o )  
S.K. Dennis A. Sheridan )

PLAINTIFFS )

v. )

Civil Action No. \_\_\_\_\_

Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in )  
North America, Inc., G. Santy Lascano )  
David P. Owen, Ed Bousquet, )  
Glenn E. Almy, Ronald G. Andress, )  
Richard L. Swaney, William R. Miller )

DEFENDANTS )

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGES OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE  
DISTRICT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE:

All Defendants, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1441, 1446 and 1331, 1332(a) (1), hereby  
remove the action brought against them by Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the  
United States of America, Lawrence E. Tucker, Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New  
Hampshire and Dennis A. Sheridan in Grafton County Superior Court, and in support state as  
follows:

1. Per the Writ of Summons filed in Grafton County Superior Court (No. 215-2011-  
CV-00338 (the "State Court Action"), the Plaintiffs are two voluntary associations, one

apparently headquartered in Bellaire, Texas and the other with at least one member residing in Grafton County, New Hampshire.

2. The removal defendants are citizens of the States of Washington, Missouri, Oregon, Oklahoma, Alabama and Illinois and all have ties to their own state Mason organizations. None of the defendants in the State Court Action is a citizen of Texas or New Hampshire. The removal defendants were served by registered mail less than 30 days prior to the filing of this Notice. See Copy of Service letter from opposing counsel dated **September 8, 2011** along with the Writ of Summons and other documents attached hereto as Exhibits A.

3. Plaintiffs have alleged against the Defendants, inter alia, liability pursuant to various claims under state tort law for actual damages and attorney's fees. Based upon these allegations, and information and belief, the Defendants state that the matter in controversy exceeds \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs.

4. The United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire has subject matter jurisdiction over this case pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a)(1). In addition, the claims as alleged confer jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 as well, since this action presents significant First and Fourteenth Amendment rights of the defendants concerning freedom of association and due process.

5. This notice of removal is timely and filed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a) and (b).

6. Certified copies of all process, pleadings and orders served on Defendant in the state court action will be forthcoming from the state court per Local Rule 81.1.

**WHEREFORE**, Defendants removes this case to this Court and requests that this Court assume jurisdiction of the case and take all further action as may be required to determine this controversy.



Respectfully Submitted,  
The Defendants,  
G. Santy Lascano, David P. Owen,  
and William R. Miller,  
By their attorney,

/s/ Mark A. Darling  
Mark A. Darling, Esquire - N.H. Bar #: 4803  
Litchfield Cavo LLP  
Six Kimball Lane, Suite 200  
Lynnfield, MA 01940  
(781) 309-1500

Dated: October 3, 2011

Respectfully Submitted,  
The Defendant,  
Glenn E. Almy,  
By his attorney,

/s/ Jamie N. Hage  
Jamie N. Hage, Esquire  
Kathleen Davidson, Esquire  
Hage Hodes, PA  
1855 Elm Street  
Manchester, New Hampshire 03104

Respectfully Submitted,  
The Defendants,  
Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in  
North America, Inc., Ed Bousquet, Ronald G. Andress,  
And Richard L. Swaney  
By their attorney,

/s/ Jennifer T. Beaudet  
Thomas Pappas, Esquire- NH Bar # 4111  
Jennifer T. Beaudet, Esquire - NH Bar # 17174  
Wiggin & Nourie, P.A.  
670 North Commercial Street, Suite 305  
P.O. Box 808  
Manchester, NH 03105-0808

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Mark A. Darling, hereby certify that on October 3, 2011 a true copy of the above document was served by first class mail to:

Michael D. Ramsdell, Esquire  
Orr & Reno, P.A.  
One Eagle Square  
P.O. Box 3550  
Concord, NH 03302-3550

Thomas Pappas, Esquire  
Jennifer T. Beaudet, Esquire  
Wiggin & Nourie, P.A.  
670 North Commercial Street, Suite 305  
P.O. Box 808  
Manchester, NH 03105-0808

Jamie N. Hage  
Kathleen Davidson  
Hage Hodes, PA  
1855 Elm Street  
Manchester, New Hampshire 03104

/s/ Mark A. Darling  
Mark A. Darling

Michael D. Ramsdell  
mramsdell@orr-reno.com  
Direct Dial 603.224.2381  
Direct Fax 603.224.2318

**Orr&Reno**  
*Professional Association*

One Eagle Square, P.O. Box 3550  
Concord, NH 03302-3550  
Telephone 603.224.2381  
Facsimile 603.224.2318  
www.orr-reno.com

September 8, 2011

**VIA CERTIFIED MAIL -**  
**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

David P. Owen  
1941 Summit Lake Shore Road Northwest  
Olympia, WA 98502

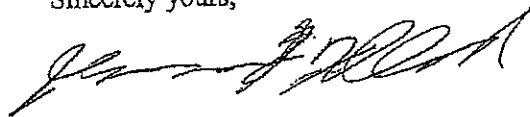
*Re: Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, et al.  
v. Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc., et al.  
Docket No. 215-2011-CV-00338*

Dear Mr. Owen:

Enclosed please find a copy of a Writ of Summons with attached Declaration, Receipt of Writ issued by the Grafton County Superior Court, and a copy of the Certificate issued by the State of New Hampshire Department of State, certifying that the Writ was served upon the New Hampshire Secretary of State's Office pursuant to New Hampshire RSA 510:4. Pursuant to RSA 510:4, we have forwarded these materials to you via Certified Mail-Return Receipt Requested to complete service.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely yours,



Michael D. Ramsdell

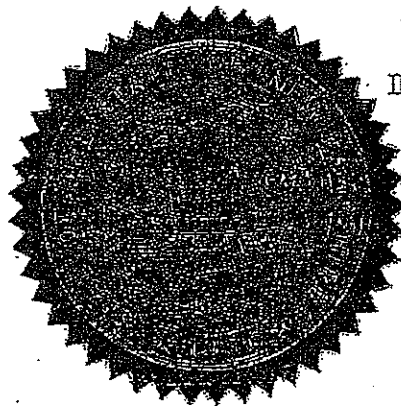
MDR/mem

Enclosures

cc: Thomas X. Tsirimokos, Esq.  
799229\_1.DOC

State of New Hampshire  
Department of State

I, William M. Gardner, Secretary of State of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby certify that on August 26, 2011 the following WRIT was served on me, Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of The United States of America and Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire v. David P. Owen. A copy of said WRIT OF SUMMONS is now in the custody of the Secretary of State.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereto  
set my hand and cause to be affixed  
the Seal of the State of New Hampshire,  
this 29<sup>th</sup> day of August A.D. 2011

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William M. Gardner".

William M. Gardner  
Secretary of State

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
JUDICIAL BRANCH

Grafton Superior Court  
3785 D.C. Highway  
North Haverhill NH 03774

Telephone: (603) 787-6961  
TTY/TDD Relay: (800) 735-2964  
<http://www.courts.state.nh.us>

RECEIPT OF WRIT

Case Name: Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, et al  
Case Number: 215-2011-CV-00338  
v Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc., et al

The writ in the above-captioned matter was filed with the Clerk of this Court on: August 05, 2011 at 9:16 a.m.

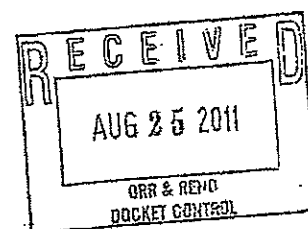
Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire; Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America or his/her attorney is to attach a copy of this Receipt to identical copies of the original writ and deliver them to the Sheriff or other legally authorized entity for service on Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc.; G Santy Lascano; David P Owen; Ed Bousquet; Glenn E Almy; Ronald G Andress; Richard L Swaney. Sufficient copies shall be provided to allow for a service copy for each named defendant and a copy for each officer completing service to complete the return. The return copies shall be filed with the Court in accordance with Superior Court Rule 3.

BY ORDER OF THE COURT

August 23, 2011

David P. Carlson  
Clerk of Court

(468)



# The State of New Hampshire

## SUPERIOR COURT

GRAFTON COUNTY

( ) COURT

~~(XX)~~ JURY

WRIT OF SUMMONS  
Grand Encampment of Knights Templar  
of the United States of America  
c/o S.K. Lawrence E. Tucker  
5909 West Loop South, Suite 495  
Bellaire, Texas 77401-2402

and

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar  
of New Hampshire  
c/o S.K. Dennis A. Sheridan  
P.O. Box 621  
Littleton, NH 03561-0621

Conference of Grand Masters of  
Masons in North America, Inc.  
c/o Secretary/Treasurer Glenn Means  
2019 Northeast Avanti Court  
Blue Springs, MO 64029-9368

v.  
G. Santy Lascano  
123 Alder Street  
Everett, WA 98203

David P. Owen  
1941 Summitt Lake Shore  
Road Northwest  
Olympia, WA 98502

Ed Bousquet  
62649 Erickson Road  
Bend, OR 97701-9704

Glenn E. Almy  
102 South Broad Street  
P.O. Box 10198  
Guthrie, OK 73044

Ronald G. Andress  
2509 Lakewood Circle  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35405

Richard L. Swaney  
P.O. Box 5  
Vienna, IL 62995

William R. Miller, 30725 21st Street Avenue, Southwest, Federal Way, Washington 98023  
The Sheriff or Deputy of any County is ordered to summon each defendant to file a written appearance with the  
Superior Court at the address listed below by the return day of this writ which is the first Tuesday of October

2011

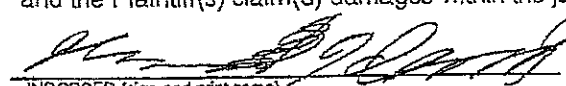
MONTH

YEAR

The PLAINTIFF(S) state(s):

See attached Declaration.

and the Plaintiff(s) claim(s) damages within the jurisdictional limits of this Court.

  
ENDORSE (sign and print name)  
Michael D. Ramsdell, Esq., counsel for  
Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and Grand Commandery of  
Knights Templar of New Hampshire

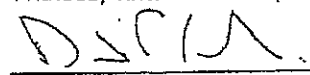
August 3, 2011

DATE OF WRIT

## NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT

The Plaintiff listed above has begun legal action against you. You do not have to physically appear in Court on the return day listed above since there will be no hearing on that day. However, if you intend to contest this matter, you or your attorney must file a written appearance form with the Clerk's Office by that date. (Appearance forms may be obtained from the Clerk's Office.) You will then receive notice from the Court of all proceedings concerning this case. If you fail to file an appearance by the return day, judgment will be entered against you for a sum of money which you will then be obligated to pay.

Witness, Tina L. Nadeau, Chief Justice, Superior Court

  
David P. Carlson, Clerk  
NH Superior Court Grafton County  
3785 Dartmouth College Hwy.  
North Haverhill NH 03774  
(603) 787-6961

SIGNATURE OF PLAINTIFF/ATTORNEY

Michael D. Ramsdell, Esq. (NH Bar No. 2096)

PRINTED/TYPED NAME

Orr & Reno, P.A.  
One Eagle Square, P.O. Box 3550  
ADDRESS

Concord, NH 03302-3550

(603) 224-2381

PHONE

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

GRAFTON, SS.

SUPERIOR COURT

Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America  
c/o S. K. Lawrence E. Tucker  
5909 West Loop South, Suite 495  
Bellaire, Texas 77401-2402; and

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire  
c/o S.K. Dennis A. Sheridan  
P.O. Box 621  
Littleton, NH 03561-0621

v.

Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc.  
c/o Secretary/Treasurer Glenn Means  
2019 Northeast Avanti Court  
Blue Springs, MO 64029-9368;

G. Santy Lascano  
123 Alder Street  
Everett, WA 98203;

David P. Owen  
1941 Summit Lake Shore Road Northwest  
Olympia, WA 98502;

Ed Bousquet  
62649 Erickson Road  
Bend, OR 97701-9704;

Glenn E. Almy  
102 South Broad Street  
P.O. Box 1019  
Guthrie, OK 73044;

Ronald G. Andress  
2509 Lakewood Circle  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35405;

Richard L. Swaney  
P.O. Box 5  
Vienna, IL 62995; and

*GM - CASE  
4/11/11*

William R. Miller  
30725 21ST Avenue, Southwest  
Federal Way, Washington 98023

*Prison  
GM*

DECLARATION

Plaintiffs the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire, by and through their counsel, Orr & Reno, P.A., submit the following Declaration against Defendants Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc., G. Santy Lascano, David Owen, Ed Bosquet, Glenn E. Almy, Ronald G. Andress, Richard L. Swaney and William R. Miller:

Introduction

1. This case involves Defendant Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc. and several individuals, including the members of the Commission on Information for Recognition and current or former officers of Grand Lodges of Oregon, Washington, Oklahoma, Alabama, and Illinois, conspiring to interfere with the Plaintiff Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America's contractual relationships with Grand Commanderies of Knights Templar and individual Sir Knights through the use of defamatory misrepresentations. Consequently, the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of New Hampshire assert claims of civil conspiracy, interference with contractual relationships, defamation, and intentional and negligent misrepresentation against the Defendant organization and individuals.



Parties

2. Plaintiff Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America (the "Grand Encampment") is a voluntary association and fraternal organization that traces its roots to the 11<sup>th</sup> century. In February 1905, the United States Congress recognized the Grand Encampment and bestowed it with corporate status, including the right to hold and manage gifts and devises provided to it. The Grand Encampment's mailing address is c/o Sir Knight ("S.K.") Lawrence E. Tucker, 5909 West Loop South, Suite 495, Bellaire, Texas 77401-2402. The Grand Encampment has significant ties to New Hampshire, which are described in the succeeding paragraph.

3. Plaintiff Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire (the "Grand Commandery") is a voluntary association and fraternal organization. It is deemed a corporation pursuant to RSA 292:12-14. The Grand Commandery's mailing address is c/o S.K. Dennis A. Sheridan, P.O. Box 621, Littleton, New Hampshire 03561-0621. S.K. Sheridan, the Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery, is the designated New Hampshire representative of the Grand Encampment and the personal representative of Grand Encampment Grand Master S.K. William H. Koon, II. All past Grand Commanders of the Grand Commandery and the current Grand Commander and his three senior officers are members of the Grand Encampment. The Grand Commandery also boasts the Chairman of the Grand Encampment's Committee on Templar Jurisprudence, a Trustee of the Grand Encampment's Permanent Fund and a member of the Grand Encampment's Committee on Educational Foundation.

4. Defendant Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in North America, Inc. ("Conference") is a voluntary association and fraternal organization. It is a

corporation of the State of Missouri. Its mailing address is c/o Secretary/Treasurer Glenn Means, 2019 Northeast Avanti Court, Blue Springs, MO 64029-9368.

5. Defendant G. Santy Lascano is the Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Washington ("GLWA"), a voluntary association and fraternal organization. His mailing address is 123 Alder Street, Everett, WA 98203.

5. Defendant David Owen is the Grand Secretary of GLWA. His mailing address is 1941 Summit Lake Shore Road, Northwest, Olympia, WA 98502.

6. Defendant Ed Bousquet is the Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Oregon ("GLOR"), a voluntary association and fraternal organization. His mailing address is 62649 Erickson Road, Bend, OR 97701-9704.

7. Defendant Glenn E. Almy is the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Oklahoma ("GLOK"), a voluntary association and fraternal organization. His mailing address is 102 South Broad Street, P.O. Box 1019, Guthrie, OK 73044.

8. Defendant Ronald G. Andress is the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama ("GLAL"), a voluntary association and fraternal organization. His mailing address is 2509 Lakewood Circle, Tuscaloosa, AL 35405

9. Defendant Richard L. Swaney is the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Illinois, a voluntary association and fraternal organization. His mailing address is P.O. Box 5, Vienna, IL 62995.

10. Defendant William R. Miller is the Sovereign Grand Inspector General for the State of Washington of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction

("AASRSJ"), and Grand Minister of State of the AASRSJ. His mailing address is 30725 21ST Avenue, Southwest, Federal Way, WA 98023.

Jurisdiction and Venue

11. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this proceeding pursuant to RSA 491:7. Venue is proper in Grafton County Superior Court because S.K. Sheridan resides in the jurisdiction, some of the Defendants' conduct occurred in Grafton County and the impact of Defendants' conduct reached into Grafton County.

Knights Templar, Grand Encampment and Grand Commandery

12. The Knights Templar is a chivalric Masonic, Christian-oriented, voluntary and fraternal association based on an ancient organization that was founded in the 11<sup>th</sup> century. It operates on national, state and local levels, and annually raises millions of dollars for charitable purposes, including the support of Masonic-related youth groups. Its principal charities, The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, the Knights Templar Educational Foundation, and the Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund are 501(c)(3) entities and dependent upon contributions chiefly from members of the Order. The charities draw upon the officers of the Grand Encampment for their governance.

13. The Grand Encampment is the national level of the Knights Templar. It promulgates the laws governing the state and local level organizations. The three highest ranking officers are the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master and the Grand Generalissimo. The state level is the Grand Commandery and local level organizations are known as Commanderies. The Grand Commandery was established in May 1826.

14. Pursuant to the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, the Grand Encampment "has supreme legislative, judicial and executive power and jurisdiction over

the Orders of the Red Cross, Knights of Malta and Knights Templar within the United States of America and geographical regions over which the United States exercises jurisdiction." The Grand Master is bestowed with the "power and authority to do and perform all such acts as he may deem for the interests of Templary and which are not contrary to [Templar law]." The specific responsibilities vested in the Grand Master include the following:

- (a) To maintain a watchful supervision over all Commanderies, Grand, Constituent and Subordinate; to see that all the Constitutional enactments, the Statutes, Edicts, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Encampment are duly and promptly obeyed . . . [;]
- (b) To visit and preside over any Grand, Constituent or Subordinate Commandery[;] . . . [and]
- (c) [T]o issue his proxy to any such member authorizing him to visit, inspect and preside over any Grand Commandery . . .

The Grand Master is also President of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

15. The Grand Commandery and Commanderies in each state are charged with collecting certain charitable funds, including contributions to the Knights Templar Educational Foundation, the Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund and the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. Separately, each Commandery collects dues from its individual Sir Knights and a portion of the funds are forwarded to the Grand Encampment to support its operations.

#### GRAND PRIORY OF SCOTTISH REFORMED AND RECTIFIED RITE

16. The Rectified Scottish Rite (the "RER")<sup>1</sup> is the world's oldest continuously extant chivalric Masonic Order. The RER's governing bodies are called Great Priories. On January 22, 2011, in Marseilles, France, a patent was granted to the

<sup>1</sup> In the original French, *Rite Ecossais Rectifié*

Grand Encampment establishing the Eleventh Province of the RER. The Grand Encampment's Grand Master was installed as the Master of the Grand Priory of the RER of the United States of America. By these acts, the Great Priory of Occitania conferred upon the Grand Encampment the right to practice, and to bestow, the 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> Degrees of the Rectified Scottish Right.<sup>2</sup> The attendees at the ceremony included members of the following organizations: National Grand Lodge of France, American Canadian Grand Lodge, United Grand Lodge of England, and the Grand Lodges of Illinois, Indiana, New York, Ohio, Tennessee and Texas, all of them widely acknowledged as regular<sup>3</sup> and recognized.

#### THE DEFAMATORY AND CONSPIRATORIAL CONDUCT

17. In February 2011, Defendant Conference's Commission on Information for Recognition ("Commission") declared that:

the Great Priory of Occitania is an irregular body. It was self-created in 1995 by former members of the Great Priory of Gauls, which was declared irregular by the Grande Loge Nationale Francaise ["GLNF"], and its members expelled.<sup>[4]</sup>

The Commission went on to state that:

[t]his Commission does not normally concern itself with the affairs of appendant bodies; however, it is concerned about the negative impact on the established system of regularity in North American Freemasonry that may be caused by members of our Grand Lodges setting a precedent by becoming affiliated with organizations that receive their charter from an irregular source.

18. The falsity of this statement was acknowledged by no less an authority than Sir Knight and Brother Jean-Claude Tardivat, who served as the Deputy Grand Master of the GLNF until January of this year. S.K. Tardivat confirmed that no members

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<sup>2</sup> The 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> degrees are an esoteric and spiritual form of Templary. The Constitution of the Grand Encampment provides that the degrees can be conferred only through the Grand Encampment.

<sup>3</sup> In this context, "regular" means proper and established by the then-lawfully empowered body.

<sup>4</sup> In this context, "irregular" means falsely or not established by the then-lawfully empowered body.

of Great Priory of Occitania had been expelled from the GLNF; rather, some members of the Grand Priory had voluntarily relinquished their membership in that body. Moreover, the Commission's limited purpose had been stated by the committee appointed in 1951, by Most Worshipful Brother Reginald E. Goldsmith, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, then Chairman of the Conference as follows:<sup>5</sup>

Purpose: It shall be the duty of the Commission to assemble and collate information on Grand Lodges as a service to the Member Grand Lodges of this Conference.

To render an opinion concerning an entity other than a Masonic Grand Lodge is beyond the Commission's purview.<sup>6</sup>

19. Before the issuance of the Commission's report, Defendant Miller published a "Fact Sheet About the Three Masonic Templar Bodies" in which he declared:

[t]he problem that arises is that the Grand Encampment has made it known that it intends to create "lodges" in every jurisdiction where it has Grand Commanderies. To confer the C.B.C.S. degrees. Masonic degrees being conferred in every State, under a charter issued by an irregular Masonic body!

The allegation is entirely unfounded because the Grand Encampment did not receive patents from an irregular source and because it has neither formed nor expressed an intention to form "lodges" within the various States.

20. Defendant Miller distributed this and similar documents at multiple functions, including Masonic Week in Alexandria, Virginia, in February, 2011, whose participants included several New Hampshire Masons and Sir Knights. On or about March 26, 2011, Defendant Miller presented the documents to Defendant Lascano and the Officers of the Grand Commandery of Washington. On information and belief,

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<sup>5</sup> Brother Goldsmith was appointed one of the original members of the Commission the following year.

<sup>6</sup> In fact, at least one Grand Lodge has since forwarded a letter to the Commission rebuking it for exceeding the scope of its authority and recommending that the members of the Commission be replaced.

Defendant Miller made a similar presentation to Defendant Bosquet. On information and belief, Defendant Miller's purpose in distributing the documents and making the presentations was to motivate and encourage others to disseminate his claims throughout the Grand Lodges and Grand Commanderies of all fifty states, including New Hampshire.

21. On April 5, 2011, Defendant Lascano issued an edict in which he accused the Grand Encampment of "being associated with an irregular Masonic body in France" and therefore, being "equally irregular." The accusations are false because the Great Priory of Occitania is a regular Masonic body. Importantly, the accusations are devastating because Free and Accepted Masons and Sir Knights are prohibited from interacting with irregular bodies and individuals. In fact, Defendant Lascano's edict concludes as follows:

I therefore direct all Master Masons in the Jurisdiction of Grand Lodge of Washington, Free and Accepted Masons to refrain from any interaction with the Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the USA until this situation is resolved. Any known actions reference this matter by the brethren of this jurisdiction shall be reported to this office immediately. Masonic disciplinary actions will be imposed on any violators of this edict and will be subject to suspension or expulsion from this jurisdiction.

22. On April 25, 2011, Defendant Bousquet issued an edict that surpassed Defendant Lascano's edict. Defendant Bousquet's edict states as follows:

I am declaring the Grand Priory of the Reformed and Rectified Rite of the United States of America irregular and clandestine body in Oregon. Therefore, until the situation is resolved, an Oregon Mason who holds membership in any Masonic Body within, and/or governed by the Jurisdiction of the [GLOR] is hereby directed to refrain from any interaction with the Grand Priory of the Reformed and Rectified Rite of the United States of America or any member or members of this organization. This means no Oregon Mason may communicate on Masonic subjects formally or informally by the imparting or interchange of thoughts, opinions or information of speech, writing or signs. Any violation of this edict will result in disciplinary action that may result in suspension or expulsion from the Fraternity.



23. By letter dated April 20, 2011, Defendant Almy sent a letter to Defendant Bosquet lauding his "decisive leadership" on the issue. The letter states that members of the Grand Encampment will be barred from "the upcoming Spring meeting of the Grand Commandery of Oklahoma." The letter also includes the following directives and restrictions:

I am directing Sir Knight Dwayne Dixon, Right Eminent Grand Commander [of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Oklahoma], to not permit any representatives of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, or any other Sir Knight, who belongs to this irregular body, to attend the upcoming Spring meeting of the Grand Commandery of Oklahoma. I will not permit someone who has violated the obligation of a Master Mason to sit in a tiled meeting in Oklahoma.

Thus, the letter falsely accuses every member of the Grand Priory of the RER of the United States of America of having violated his Masonic obligations, and is especially devastating because it invites scorn and detestation from other Masons.

24. Defendant Almy's letter also states that the GLOK "endorses, supports, and offers whatever assistance is needed in your effort to conclude the matter in a satisfactory manner." A copy of the letter was provided to the Grand Master of each state, including New Hampshire.

25. By email dated May 6, 2011, Defendant Owen contacted the Grand Secretaries of the Grand Lodges of all fifty states, including New Hampshire. The email states as follows:

The GM of the [GLWA] has issued an edict declaring the Great Grand Priory of Occitania as irregular, and the Grand Priory of the Reformed and Rectified Rite of the United States of America, which was formed out of the Great Priory of Occitania, is also irregular. The situation has consumed way too much of my time but it is necessary. I am wondering how many other Grand Lodges have taken some form of action against the



Grand Priory of the Reformed and Rectified Rite of the United States of America, or are planning to take action.

This is truly a National Masonic problem.

26. By letter dated May 29, 2011, Defendant Andress falsely claimed that:

several Alabama Masons have been contacted and offered membership in the subject irregular body.

... it is therefore my decision and ruling that the "Grand Priory of the Reformed and Rectified Rite of the United States" is irregular by Masonic recognition standards and that no member of this Alabama Grand Jurisdiction shall have any interaction with this irregular body.

27. By letter dated July 8, 2011, Defendant Swaney declared the Grand Priory of the RER of the United States of America "irregular" and decreed that no Illinois Mason "shall have any interaction with nor become a member of this irregular body." Defendant Swaney went on to direct that the letter be made a part of the permanent record of each Masonic Lodge in Illinois.

28. Upon information and belief, the purpose of the above-described conduct of Defendants Conference, Miller, Lascano, Bousquet, Almy, Owen and Swaney was to motivate and encourage others to disseminate Defendant Miller's claims throughout the Grand Lodges and Grand Commanderies of all fifty states, including New Hampshire.

#### CAUSES OF ACTION

##### Count I

##### Intentional Interference with Contractual Relations

29. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery reassert all of the facts alleged in paragraphs 1-28 above.

30. The elements of intentional interference with contractual relations are:

(a) there must be a contractual relationship between the plaintiff and a third party; (b) the

defendant must be aware of the contractual relationship; (c) the defendant must intentionally and unlawfully interfere with the relationship; and (d) the plaintiff must be damaged by the interference. *Singer Asset Finance Co., LLC v. Wyner*, 156 N.H. 468, 478 (2007).

31. When the Defendants falsely accused the Grand Encampment of being irregular they intentionally interfered with the Grand Encampment's and the Grand Commandery's contractual relationships with their Sir Knights. Specifically, the false accusations impaired each organization's likelihood and ability to collect dues from its Sir Knights, and rendered it impossible for the Grand Encampment to oversee funds collected for the charitable purposes described in paragraph 16 above.

32. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery are entitled to compensation in the form of monetary damages, plus attorneys' fees and costs, for the damages suffered as a result of Defendants' intentional interference with contractual relations.

#### Count II Intentional Misrepresentation

33. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery reassert all of the facts alleged in paragraphs 1-32 above.

34. When Defendants made the misrepresentations referenced in paragraphs 17-28 above, they made the misrepresentations with knowledge of their falsity or with conscious indifference to their truth with the intention of causing other Masons and Sir Knights to rely on them. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery were damaged by the intentional misrepresentations.

35. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery are entitled to compensation in the form of monetary damages, plus attorneys' fees and costs, for the damages suffered as a result of Defendants' intentional misrepresentations.

**Count III**  
**Negligent Misrepresentation**

36. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery reassert all of the facts alleged in paragraphs 1-35 above.

37. Defendants made the misrepresentations referenced in paragraphs 17-27 above negligently. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery were damaged by the negligent misrepresentations.

38. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery are entitled to compensation in the form of monetary damages, plus attorneys' fees and costs, for the damages suffered as a result of Defendants' negligent misrepresentations.

**Count IV**  
**Civil Conspiracy**

39. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery reassert all of the facts alleged in paragraphs 1-38 above.

40. When Defendants made the misrepresentations and engaged in the conduct referenced in paragraphs 17-28 above, they engaged in a civil conspiracy; that is, they were two or more persons who agreed to, and achieved, an unlawful object and committed one or more overt acts. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery were damaged as a proximate result of the civil conspiracy.

41. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery are entitled to damages resulting from Defendants' civil conspiracy, including interest and all costs and attorneys' fees as have been incurred by the necessity of this action.

JURY TRIAL DEMAND

42. The Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery assert their rights to a jury trial on their causes of action.

WHEREFORE, the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire respectfully request that the Honorable Court:

A. Award monetary damages, including attorneys' fees and costs, to the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire in an amount determined by a jury; and

B. Grant such additional relief as justice requires.

Respectfully submitted,

GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS  
TEMPLAR OF THE UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA; and

GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS  
TEMPLAR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

By their attorneys;

Dated: 8/3/11

By: 

Michael D. Ramsdell  
Orr & Reno, P.A.  
One Eagle Square, P.O. Box 3550  
Concord, NH 03102-3550  
(603) 625-1254  
mramsdell@orr-reno.com

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Grand Encampment of Knights Templar )  
of the United States of America, c/o )  
Lawrence E. Tucker, Grand Commandery )  
of Knights Templar of New Hampshire c/o )  
S.K. Dennis A. Sheridan )

PLAINTIFFS )

v. )

Civil Action No. \_\_\_\_\_

Conference of Grand Masters of Masons in )  
North America, Inc., G. Santy Lascano )  
David P. Owen, Ed Bousquet, )  
Glenn E. Almy, Ronald G. Andress, )  
Richard L. Swaney, William R. Miller )

DEFENDANTS )

**NOTICE TO ADVERSARY PARTY OF REMOVAL BY DEFENDANTS**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that this case, which was previously pending in the Grafton Superior Court of the New Hampshire, has been removed to the United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire by all defendants. A copy of the Notice of Removal filed with the United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire, is attached hereto as Exhibit

1.

Respectfully Submitted,  
The Defendants,  
G. Santy Lascano, David P. Owen,  
and William R. Miller,  
By their attorney,

/s/ Mark A. Darling  
Mark A. Darling, Esquire  
Litchfield Cavo LLP  
6 Kimball Lane, Suite 200  
Lynnfield, MA 01940  
(781) 309-1500  
N.H. Bar #: 4803

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Mark A. Darling, hereby certify that on October 3, 2011 a true copy of the above document was served by first class mail to:

Michael D. Ramsdell, Esquire  
Orr & Reno, P.A.  
One Eagle Square  
P.O. Box 3550  
Concord, NH 03302-3550

Thomas Pappas, Esquire  
Jennifer T. Beaudet, Esquire  
Wiggin & Nourie, P.A.  
670 North Commercial Street, Suite 305  
P.O. Box 808  
Manchester, NH 03105-0808

Jamie N. Hage, Esquire  
Kathleen Davidson, Esquire  
Hage Hodes, PA  
1855 Elm Street  
Manchester, New Hampshire 03104

/s/ Mark A. Darling  
Mark A. Darling

JS 44. (Rev. 09/11)

## CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

## I. (a) PLAINTIFFS

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff TEXAS STATE  
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)

MICHAEL RAMSDELL  
600 RENO  
1 EBBELS SQUARE CONCORD NH 03302

## DEFENDANTS

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant WASHINGTON STATE  
(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.

Attorneys (If Known)

MARK A. DARLING  
LITCHFIELD CAVO LLP  
6 KIMBALL LANE, SUITE 200 LYNNFIELD, MA 01940

## II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

- ☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff  
☒ 2 U.S. Government Defendant  
☒ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)  
☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

## III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)

- |   | PTF                        | DEF                        |   | PTF                        | DEF                        |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Citizen of This State                   | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | Incorporated or Principal Place of Business in This State     | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 |
| Citizen of Another State                | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | Incorporated and Principal Place of Business in Another State | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | Foreign Nation  | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 |

## IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

CONTRACT	PERSONAL INJURY	PROPERTY	WILLS	LABOR	SOCIAL SECURITY	OTHER STATUTES
<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act <input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument <input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act <input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans) <input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits <input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract <input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise	<input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane <input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander <input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers' Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 345 Machine Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury <input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury - Med. Malpractice	<input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 367 Health Care/Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud <input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending <input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage <input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 <input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 622 Appeal 28 USC 158 <input type="checkbox"/> 623 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 <input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights <input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent <input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark	<input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1995ff) <input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923) <input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) <input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSD Title XVI <input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g))	<input type="checkbox"/> 375 False Claims Act <input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act <input type="checkbox"/> 896 Arbitration <input type="checkbox"/> 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision <input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes

## V. ORIGIN

- (Place an "X" in One Box Only)
- ☐ 1 Original Proceeding  
☒ 2 Removed from State Court  
☐ 3 Remanded from Appellate Court  
☐ 4 Reinstated or Reopened  
☐ 5 Transferred from another district (specify)  
☐ 6 Multidistrict Litigation

## VI. CAUSE OF ACTION

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):

FIRST AMENDMENT & 28 U.S.C. 1332

Brief description of cause:  
FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION

## VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:

☐ CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R.C.P. 23

DEMAND \$

N/A

CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:

JURY DEMAND: ☐ Yes ☐ No

## VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY

(See instructions): JUDGE N/A

DOCKET NUMBER

SEPARATE JURY DEMAND TO BE FILED

DATE

10/3/11

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

MARK A. DARLING

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIPT #

AMOUNT

APPLYING IFP

JUDGE

MAG. JUDGE